

*These minutes were also recorded using skype and that recording will be posted to the DMH website

4/13/2020

Adult State Program Standing Committee Minutes

FINAL

Present

Members: ☒ Marla Simpson ☒ Thelma Stoudt ☒ Dan Towle (chair) ☒ Vicki Warfield ☒ Bert Dyer ☒ Malaika Puffer
☐ Brandi Parker (excused)

DMH Staff: ☒ Eva Dayon ☒ Dr. Trish Singer ☒ Morning Fox ☒ Sarah Squirrell ☒ Jessica Bernard ☒ Dr. Tom Weigel

Public: ☒ Kate Hunt ☒ Lynne Cardozo ☒ Jack McCullough ☒ Dillon Burns ☒ Laura Ziegler

1 (802) 828-7667 (Dial-in Number) Conference ID: 181-615-466 (PIN #)

Agenda

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| 12:00 – 12:30 | SPSC Business <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introductions & Review agenda2. Vote on March minutes3. Letter to DMH Commissioners4. Membership Update |
| 12:30 - 1:00 | DMH Update
COVID-19 Update |
| 1:00 – 1:15 | BREAK |
| 1:15 - 2:45 | SPSC Business (Continued) <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Adult Needs and Strengths Assessment Update2. Committee Communication and Facilitation:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. What are our strengths?b. What do we need to improve?c. How to achieve changes? |
| 2:45 - 2:55 | Public Comment |
| 2:55 - 3:00 | May Agenda |

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Item	Notes
Opening Business	<p><u>Motion</u> to Approve March Minutes: Marla motioned; Burt seconded. All in favor motion passes.</p> <p><u>Letter to DMH Commissioner:</u> Recommendations Regarding COVID-19 (found here). Letter has been submitted to DMH Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner and posted to the Adult Mental Health State Program Standing Committee page of the website. All members were given the opportunity to contribute. Members are interested in hearing a response from DMH. Members discussed their creation process.</p> <p><u>Membership Update:</u> Seven members currently on the committee and one application submitted from Kate Hunt (currently attending for the second time) to the membership subcommittee. Two other prospective members are not present today but have attended multiple times and plan to continue visiting.</p>
DMH Update By Commissioner Sarah Squirrell, Deputy Commissioner Mourning Fox, AMH Medical Director Dr. Tom Weigel	<p><u>COVID-19 Update</u></p> <p>Commissioner Squirrell shared a memo: DMH Fiscal and Programmatic Communications Re: COVID-19 to the Adult Mental Health State Program Standing Committee (found here).</p> <p>Commissioner Squirrell discussed the shared document including pressures on the system of care due to COVID-19.</p> <p><u>Motion</u> to allow public comments during the question and answer session with the Commissioner. Vicki motioned, Marla seconded. All in favor motion passes.</p> <p>Discussion ensued with Commissioner Sarah Squirrell, Deputy Commissioner Mourning Fox, and AMH Medical Director Dr. Tom Weigel.</p> <p>SPSC members request:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that the memo shared by DMH Leadership and similar meeting documents be posted to the website alongside the minutes • how many beds are open/closed/full at each of the hospitals across the state • that advocacy organization contact information is posted in each inpatient facility as well as printed and distributed to each client • a follow up on whether patient representatives (especially those contracted through Vermont Psychiatric Survivors) are currently able to do their work

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a follow up on the pg. 8 table to show how census numbers have decreased for voluntary versus involuntary clients in inpatient settings • a response to each point in the SPSC submitted recommendation letter – DMH states that prioritizing areas of response would be helpful considering limited time
SPSC Business	<p>Members discussed the <u>Adult Needs and Strengths Assessment (ANSA)</u> tool and their concerns about its purpose and structure. Members compared to the Self Sufficiency Matrix (SSM).</p> <p>Dr. Tom Weigel gave background about the ANSA and the need for any proposed alternate tool needs reliability and validity proven through testing. Dr. Trish Singer gave background to the SSM.</p> <p><u>Motion</u> to confer outside the meeting to write a recommendation letter regarding assessment tools by the next meeting. Any members would be free to contribute to the letter and at the next meeting it would be finalized with a vote by members. Vicki made the motion. Marla seconded. All in favor. Motion passes.</p> <p><u>Committee Communication and Facilitation</u> members discussed how to continue this conversation, potentially waiting for Brandi at the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Motion</u> to defer discussion on committee communication to next month, shift to other SPSC business. Dan motions. Vicki seconds. All in favor, motion carries.</p> <p><u>Review of COVID-19 memo shared earlier this meeting by DMH Leadership.</u> Member of the public Laura discussed the public records request process. Members discussed what response they would like from DMH regarding their recommendation letter.</p> <p>SPSC requests from DMH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A record of the other tools considered besides the ANSA • A response about the availability and priorities as they relate to testing of potentially COVID-19 positive clients in inpatient settings • A response about whether public records requests by SPSC members will incur a fee
Public Comment	<p>Four members of the public were present on the call. Two gave input earlier in the meeting when invited.</p> <p>One member of the public asked if any individuals signed up to support the mental health system of care through the governor’s volunteer database. SPSC requests for any information regarding this to be shared with the committee.</p>

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Closing Meeting Business	<p>Agenda Items for next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ANSA recommendation letter• Responsibilities of the committee letter• DMH update• Committee communication and facilitation• Pandemic response (before DMH update)• Columbia Lighthouse Columbia Tool for Suicide Prevention generally (June meeting) <p><u>Motion</u> to adjourn. By Vicki, seconded by Bert. All in favor, motion carries.</p>
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